

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings:

Claims 1-5: Canceled.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): Piston (1) for an internal combustion engine, consisting

- of an approximately cylindrical upper region (5) for accommodating ring grooves, and
- of a lower region (6) having two bosses (7) for accommodating a piston pin, which are set back towards the central piston axis (8),
- whereby recesses (12, 12') are disposed in the upper region (5), in the region of the bosses (7), which are open towards the lower region (6), having undercuts (13, 13') molded into the region between the bosses (7) and the upper region (5)

wherein

the recesses (12, 12') are divided by at least one rib (17, 17') disposed in the radial direction, in each instance.

Claims 7-8: Canceled.

Claim 9 (New): A casting method for the production of a piston, in which a casting mold having a pivoting window insert for the production of recesses is used, comprising the following method steps:

producing salt mold parts that form the recesses and undercuts that project into a region between bosses of the piston and an upper region of the piston;

introducing indentations in the salt mold parts for producing ribs in the recesses and the undercuts during casting of the piston;

attaching the salt mold parts to each of the window inserts;

casting the piston;

pivoting away the window inserts from the cast piston, so that the salt mold parts are released from the window inserts and remain in the piston; and

washing out of the salt mold parts from the piston.

Claim 10 (new): A casting method according to claim 9, wherein the window inserts have at least two cone-shaped extensions onto which each of the salt mold parts are set.

Claim 11 (New): A piston for an internal combustion engine, said piston being formed by a casting mold having a pivoting window insert for the production of recesses, the piston being made with the following steps:

producing salt mold parts that form the recesses and undercuts that project into a region between bosses of the piston and an upper region of the piston;

introducing indentations in the salt mold parts for producing ribs in the recesses and the undercuts during casting of the piston;

attaching the salt mold parts to each of the window inserts;

casting the piston;

pivoting away the window inserts from the cast piston, so that the salt mold parts are released from the window inserts and remain in the piston; and

washing out of the salt mold parts from the piston.

Election of Inventions:

The Patent Examiner has required the selection of one of the following inventions for further prosecution:

Group I: Claim 6, drawn to a piston; and

Group II: Claims 7-8, drawn to a method.

ELECTION:

Applicant respectfully elects, with traverse, the invention of Group II, on which new claims 9-11, read.